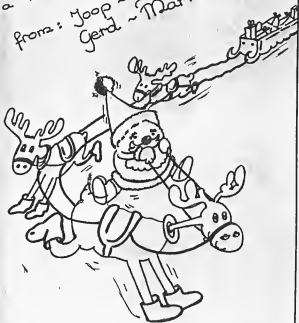


Merry Christmas
and a happy New Year
from: Joop ~ Bobby ~ Peter
Gerd ~ Mark ~ Danny.



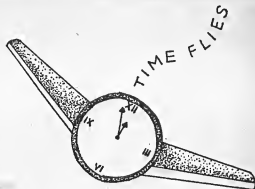
THE magazine for free radio enthusiasts

« FRS * GOES * DX »

Volume 8

Issue Number 89/90

Verantw. uitg.: P. Vervoort ** Verschijnt 12 keer per jaar * 20-12-89
Vanderstraat 1b 3688 Kinrooi *** Afgiftekantoor Maastricht



1990

F.R.S. GOES DX INFO

'F.R.S. GOES DX' is a monthly radio magazine which informs about radio in general and free radio in particular. 'F.R.S. GOES DX' is a publication of the Free Radio Service Holland, an independent short wave station, broadcasting to Europe since August 1980.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

An annual subscription costs DM 21,50 / £ 21,50 / £ 6.25 (Europe). If you live outside Europe an annual membership costs US\$ 13.00. Payments are accepted in cash or eurocheques. Other cheques are also accepted but then 15% has to be added!

Sample copies can be obtained for these incl'd to be DM 0.00 or be 100% German stamps or 75% Dutch stamps / £ 1.00 cash or st.

CORRESPONDENCE-ADDRESS

'F.R.S. GOES DX',
P.O. Box 2727, 6049 ZG Herten,
The Netherlands.

Use this address for:

- * renewing your membership
- * correspondence with regard to the magazine
- * complaints about sending

Letters, news, comments etc. are more than welcome and highly appreciated!

ADVERTISING

For full or half page advertisements contact us and we'll make a quotation. Small, semi, non-commercial adverts, relating to the radio-hobby, are free for members.

Commercial adverts (small) cost DM 3,00 / £ 1,00 / £ 3,00 / 3 inc's. We also accept German, Dutch or English stamps.

CORRESPONDENTS & REPORTERS

Peter Verhuyzen (Editor), Rudi Koot, Chris Lohman, Tonien Boonstra, Hans Koot, Nicholas Shaw, Jijon Quares, Jos Laajgraaff, Joop ter Lee.

COPY of news/features etc. from 'F.R.S. GOES DX' is only possible by permission of the editor and with mention of the source.

NEXT EDITION will be published:

January 26th 1990

DEADLINE CONTRIBUTIONS: Jan. 20th

EDITORIAL

Haste makes waste. This conclusion may be drawn after the October issue of this magazine! There was a lot of hurry simply because we were not on schedule as far as the deadline was concerned. The result was that I was forgotten to put '88' on front of the magazine. Even worse was the fact we did forget to enclose the promised 4 extra pages.... Quite annoying since they were indeed printed and just waiting to be included. Our sincere apologies!

Even my own mummy, one of our honorary members was upset. Anyway, WELCOME in the last 1989 but moreover the last 1980's issue of this very magazine! We started publishing this magazine in the Summer of 1982 and now, some 7 1/2 years later, the magazine is alive and kicking! Last year things have been very positive for 'F.R.S. GOES DX'. Not only quite a number of new members but also... and that's really fantastic... hardly anybody who did not extend his membership. Talking about renewals, there are many members who've to renew their membership for the coming 12 months. A urgent request please send us your renewal as soon as possible! That makes things a lot easier looking at the administrative, and make no mistakes with the address. The below-mentioned address is past, finished, over, over-dead etc. F.R.S.-Holland will ring out the 1980's and 1989 with a big and fantastic X-Mas broadcast Sun Dec. 26th. Don't miss it!!

Special thanks to Anton & Chris for their great work for this issue. Also thanks to all the others sending in news! We are still looking for someone in the UK who's willing to send us his SW Sun day morning/afternoon logging. 73th.

CONTENTS

- Page 2.....Editorial
- Page 3-5.....F.R.S. Newscorner
- Page 5-6.....A little Consideration
- Page 7-10.....Sounds from Off-shore
- Page 11-12.....Mailbox 41
- Page 13-14.....Digital Radio
- Page 15-18.....SW Survey Nov./Dec.
- Page 19-20.....News from around the world
- Page 21-26.....Free Radio Survey 1989
- Page 27-28.....ARC Radio History
- Page 29-31.....Off-shore Flashback

'F.R.S. Newscorner'

Welcome in this Newscorner for the month of December.

First of all a big HELLO to a couple of new readers:

- * Ralf Pokar - Leunberg - West-Germany
- * Calum McLeod - Isle of Lewis - Scotland
- * Wilfried Rillaerts-Neerijse-Huldenberg - België
- * Jürgen Zaucke - Aachen - West-Germany.

Our November trm- the return of FRSH after a 5 month's break-was aired on the 4th Sunday. Perhaps those who listened heard our special message explaining the fact the trm went out Nov. 26th instead of the 19th. The post (or better the cassettes) were too late. This can be fully blamed on the Dutch PIT since the little package was sent by special messenger. It had to arrive on Saturdays but finally arrived on Sunday afternoon. So the 3rd Sunday trm had to be cancelled and was aired a week later on 7309 kHz with good strength. Conditions weren't the best that Sunday and there seemed to be quite some fading. Most rec. reports were good and some even very good. Positive is (was) also the number of contributions for the coming X-Mas broadcast. It will be a very special happening and you may not miss it next Sunday! The schedule for the X-Mas broadcast reads as follows:

- 09.54 Opening: Station IO's & Station-tune
- 10.02 Danny Kay X-Mas Show (German)
- 10.45 'F.R.S. GOES DX' - Peter Verhuyzen
- 11.30 F.R.S. X-Mas Party 1989 with Gerd, Joop ter Zee, Bobby Speed and Peter Verhuyzen.
- 14.30 Mark Stafford Special X-Mas Show
- 15.30 Close Down.

These shows (more than 5 hours!) are going to be aired on possibly two frequencies: 7310 or 7314.5 kHz in the 41 mb and 6220 kHz in the 48 mb. The latter isn't 100% certain just try it on your receiver!

All times mentioned are of course in CET! During the shows all the season's greetings will be handled & aired. Also in the Danny Kay Show. But there's much more. It will be our 10th annual & traditional X-Mas Party and this is something we want to commemorate!

F.R.S. SALES PRODUCTIONS

ALSO THIS MONTH TWO ATTRACTIVE OFFERS FROM OUR SALES LISTS!

CAROLINE/R.N.I.

A 60 MIN. TAPE OF CAROLINE ON 389M JUNE 1973. D.J. IS PAUL ALEXANDER (RUSLING). ALSO THE RNI ENGLISH SERVICE WITH BOB NOAKES IN FM QUALITY. PRICE: DM 6.00/£ 2

F.R.S.-HOLLAND 10TH X-MAS PARTY 1989

F.R.S.-HOLLAND IN EXCELLENT STEREO. THIS IS A DIRECT COPY FROM THE MASTER. YOU CAN ORDER 60 MIN. AS DESIRED OR THE WHOLE 5 1/2 HOUR BROADCAST! RECORDED ON QUALITY CASS.

PRICE PER HOUR: DM 6.50/ £ 2.10

THE WHOLE PROGRAMMING CAN BE OBTAINED FOR DM 29 / £ 9.40 !!

ONLY ONE CAN BE THE CHEAPEST.....

Order Now

There will be a special FRS X-Mas QSL-card available. Remember: this QSL will only be sent to those sending in correct rec. reports for our Dec. broadcast! There will also be a special FRS 1989 X-Mas Competition. And this competition will be aired three times during the FRS X-Mas Party between 11.30 and 14.30 CET. So have your tape-recorder ready! There will be 3 nice prizes for the winners. Winners will be announced in our January or February broadcast. Depends on the fact how quick your December mail reaches our mailing address! FRS deejays will play their favourite 1980's tracks as well. All in all it's more than worth while to give a good listen next Sun. Some additional info with regard to the competition: The competition will be covering 9 years of FRS X-Mas broadcasts. Extracts will be played of previous FRS X-Mas Shows. Part of these extracts are pieces of records which were a hit at the time of that particular broadcast. In this way you have to find out from which year a particular a particular extract is. A total of 9 extracts are being played and the correct sequence is the key to the answer. For instance: 1983-1986-1988-1980-1983-1981-1987-1982-1984. Not easy, therefore a tape/cassette recorder is ideal next Sunday.

January will be the month we introduce (finally!!) a new FRS sound. The 3rd Sun broadcast will be aired January 21st on 7310. New promos, new jingles, new ideas, a powerful FRS sound and a few new slogans. These are the ingredients for a new and even better FRS-Holland into the 1990's! We are awaiting your comments....

And now a story about jingles.... It has been mentioned a few times: our new jingles weren't finished off in time. In fact we had the hope to introduce the new package in October. This could have been reality if..... Read the following little story and you'll understand.

Right after the June broadcast, Peter Varbruggen started to write the lyrics for a new series of voice-overs. This list included programme-jingles, new slogans and 4 new promos. Two for this new magazine and two for FRS Sales Productions. In addition a number of extra lyrics were written taking into account that sometime in future some new and fresh jingles will be added. These jingles won't be used now, they are already made for the future when there is a time when we feel our jingles need some refreshing. We were lucky to have somebody in the States having a perfect voice to do this job for us. In the course of July, a long list of lyrics were sent to the USA and at the end of August we received a master-tape plus cassette with the material we needed for the new FRS package. In the mean time we were very busy finding suitable production music and production sound effects to be used for remixing the US voice-overs. We were very lucky: we got hold of a complete CD production music library containing over 60 CD's with all types of instrumental music in various lengths and temporal ideal for us.

And now comes the 'problem': after discussing the matter we came to the conclusion that the audio-quality of the American voice-overs was not good enough to remix with the high quality CD tracks. Finally it was decided to send the cassette back to the States asking the guy to re-record the whole lyrics. Also some new ideas were added to the already existing ones making the whole list even longer... That package was sent early November to the USA.

We already gave up hope to receive the re-recorded package when Fri December 8th a new package arrived.....!!

This time the quality was satisfactory. And so we are able to do all the necessary remixes. Ingredients: the US voice-overs, production music and production sound effects. There will be a new Signature Tune being used before official pax are commenced, a new top of the hour jingle (remember the old one: Spring, Summer, Winter or Fall: FRS beats them all!), new reminders (very short promos), new jingles for the Bob Show and a number of new general programme jingles. In addition to this we ordered a small package of new soaovox jingles in England. All in all it will give us a fresh, new sound. Listen yourself in Jan.!

A LITTLE CONSIDERATION....

With all the joy and happiness of X-Mas, the positive developments with regard to this magazine and the promising changes as from January onwards, we may forget there also are a few at least one point which deserves to be mentioned. A negative development. It has already been mentioned in last year's 'FRS Goes DX' edition: the growing lack of good response for the SW broadcasting stations. It seems not one single SW station is able to escape from this dangerous worrisome situation. Dangerous because the effect could be that certain stations are getting tired of the lack of response from listeners. This situation can/will develop till they pack it in. Let's be honest: the short wave scene isn't what it used to be in the late 70's/early 80's. Then there were less stations but the average QUALITY was much better. Is it possible that, because there are so many different stations, the attention of the SW listener is spread upon a higher number of stations thus resulting in sending less letters to certain stations? It's just a theory. When there are less stations your number of letters to one particular station is higher than when there are many stations. Perhaps the latter theory is especially relating to the so-called QSL Hunter. But there must be more. The quality has dropped in compare with some 10 years ago. That could be reason some DX-ers gave up listening to the SW bands on a Sunday or they switch off their receiver as soon as they discover there's nothing interesting on air. I'm pretty sure there still are lots and lots of (potential) listeners. But the number of letters some (or better: all) of the well-respected stations receive worries me. There comes a point when you say enough is enough. The trouble you take to run the station (and that's much more than only recording a few shows provided you are a serious broadcaster!!) must be compensated with a good response from your listening audience. If that's not the case time after time, the station-up is considering the idea of ceasing trans. No one can't go on getting few letters while on the other hand the work to run the station is enormous. And what worries me most is that the better stations on SW (I leave it up to you which are the better ones) will disappear. For these people offer a lot of spare time to run their station. And they are the ones who DESERVE a good response. I should I say NEED a good response!! Mark Stafford of Atlanta Radio made a number of interesting pronouncements with regard to this subject and I won't withhold you his comments. "We got a fairly good response to the broadcast (Atlanta's 10th Birthday Show back in January this year) with 32 letters in all being received. You may be interested in some statistics which show the current state of the UK short wave scene. If you compare our 32 letters

with the response to our 5th birthday broadcast in 1984, you'll see that there has been a dramatic drop in listener response. Our 5th Birthday broadcast got us around 90 letters even though we had been on the air only 4 weeks before. If you add to this the fact that in Jan. 1989 we were using 2 transmitters, it's not good news. All in all as an 'oldtimer' on SW I have to say things aren't what they used to be listener-wise. During the early 80's we were running a regular monthly service and we used to say that 30 letters was an average mailing, 40 to 50 was good and anything less than 20 was a disaster. These days we say that anything more than 20 is excellent! Our average mail is around 20 letters depending on how long it is since the last broadcast. Special occasions like using 2 txs bring in a few more. There are quite a few UK stations who get excited if they get more than 10 letters for a broadcast and very often only get 4 or 5."

Mark Stafford gets to the point. His comments relate to the British DX-er. How is the situation on the continent? Perhaps not as bad as in the UK but you can take it for granted the situation here isn't promising. There's also a clear drop of response. What applies to Atlanta Radio also applies to FRSH. Not so strong perhaps but nevertheless the response is dropping. Especially in West and East-Germany there are many, many DX-ers. Are they 'following' the attitude of British fellow DX-ers? I'm not sure. Perhaps this is partly true. I have developed another theory (my 3rd theory) which could play an (important?) role. In the course of the years FRSH has been building up a rather large following. And these listeners are satisfied with our programming. And then there's the danger of satisfaction. I mean: people are too satisfied with our (or other stations') programming and as a result they see no point in writing. They think: next month the station will be again on with the same good programming etc. What they don't realize is that stations are depending on their listeners, not one month but every month. Just like broadcasting month after month, people have to write in a regular way. I'm sure there are simply too few people who take the effort of writing. It's not just the QSL, sticker or info-sheet what must be important for the listener. Tell the station you've really listened. Put down some criticism, your comments. FRSH has a hard core of very regular writers but I'm convinced there are much more listeners. Where are their letters? Their support is just as badly needed than the other ones. Sometimes you discover there are people listening to your gas (not just listeners but every month) who have never written in. It's just this what is frustrating. A station needs to know who's listening and which comments he/she has. So many regular writers have disappeared. What has happened with them? Have they lost interest in DX-ing or are they still one of the listeners but this time the non-writing listeners? I'm very interested in YOUR COMMENTS regarding this subject. Let us know what you think. It could be a very interesting item to discuss in Opinion 41. I hope I will get lots of reactions, perhaps also from college stations reading this.



This new section covers the period Nov. 1st - December 15th 1989, the last offshore news for the 1980's as well as for 1989. In general there haven't been any real important developments. The offshore situation isn't particularly promising when looking at the current situation. In last month's 'FRS Goes DX' we were mentioning the fact that religious programming had been recommenced on 558 during evening-time. We must add that reception is really very poor, even in the coastal areas such as Kent, Essex or Zeeland in The Netherlands (pointing at the evening programmes). One of our contributors lives in Middelburg, only a few miles from the Dutch coast. Even there reception suffers from interference during evening indicating that the actual output power is very low. Also during daytime reception is quite poor and this becomes even more worse because of the time of the year: very short days which are causing poor ground wave propagation of the AM signal. Let's get it straight: the collapse of the giant 300 foot antenna was the last time Caroline put out a reasonable strong signal on 558. Since that accident Caroline has never succeeded in putting out the same signal-strength than before the collapse. It's really ironical and discouraging knowing that there's a tx aboard having a capacity of 50 kW maximum output. Ofcourse we all know this powerful unit was partly dismantled during the raid in August but on the other hand: the SW tx was converted into a MW outlet and the output of this latter is much higher than the current signal leads to believe. Another conclusion must be that the new aerial-system still isn't completed. This could also add greatly to the very low tx output. If we summarize the view of several offshore insiders and contributors, the future of Radio Caroline isn't anything but bright. The organisation on land is a chaos assuming we may talk of an organisation. The financial situation is very bad and has reached an 'all time low'. There are almost no financial sources. There's no 2nd AM station on the Ross R. and there are no SW broadcasters. No organisations lending sidetime means no cash flow. There's only one commercial and it's doubtful whether the station is getting paid for this. The only money is coming from the organisations being part of 'Viewpoint' but one may wonder whether these vicars know what the coverage of the 558 signal is during evening. The money from the religious pxs can't be enough to have a break-even. In other words: there must be serious financial losses. Another thing which is anything but nice is that a new London based station called Spectra Radio is intending to start txs on 558! Although it will be a low-powered station, there will always be interference in the Greater London area, one of Caroline's main target areas. Let's have a look on the November happenings on the Northsea. Sat Nov. 4th a heavy storm afflicted the northsea and as a result Caroline was broadcasting on even lower power than usual. That same day



between 20.00-20.30 CET the return of 'Northsea Gold' and for the rest of the evening (till 23.00CET) Viewpoint. Nov. 7th the Dutch OGD is interviewing several people, who were involved in the Radio 819 project. The former Radio 819 programme director is told that within a limited period the British DTI will be taking the Ross R. away from its position outside the territorial limit. After his interview, the former 819 PD contacts the Caroline organisation in the UK. Result is PANIC. The Caroline Movement puts the info on the Caroline Info Line and asks listeners to complain about the proposed DTI action. Thus people are asked to call the DTI as well as any local member of Parliament.

WITH love and music

RADIO CAROLINE

Now Radio paid attention to the proposed raid & confiscation of the Ross. One may wonder if the DTI has the COURAGE to undertake such action given they left anything to the OGD in August. The DTI isn't really looking for such publicity. Rumours in England were implicated that Radio Invicta - the local Kent based radio station - is involved in the plans for the raid because they are willing to silence Caroline being a rival. These rumours must be treated as nonsense. Johnny Lewis, former Caroline on air personality and nowadays Music Director on Invicta, said that Invicta treats Caroline as a rival in the positive meaning of the word. Nov. 8th the Spectrum Radio organisation is officially informed by the DTI about the fact 558 is allocated to them. The management isn't happy at all with the allocation of 558. They are not willing to put the slightest obstacle in Caroline's way and are not intending to use 558. In the mean time Peter Chicago managed to get the two original AM transmitters of the Ross in working condition. When combining the 50 kW tx with the 10 kW unit add at the same time using the new aerial masts, a 25 kW signal should be possible. Sounds good but WHEN will it happen??? Monday Nov. 13th the Ross R. was visited by a tender. The mod quality improved and became louder. As of Tuesday Nov. 14th the newservice on 558 is re-activated and pps commence already at 06.00 CET instead of 08.00 CET. Rather striking is the return of former Caroline PD Steve Conway. He is responsible for the return of a regular newservice on 558. News broadcasts are to be heard at 7, 8, 9 & 10 AM and 13, 14, 18 & 19 PM (=CET). Newreaders are Steve Conway, Neil Gates and Alex Lee (taking into account they were on duty when the newservice on the aforementioned hours was re-activated). As of Nov. 13th the following deejays are to be heard: Steve Conway, Max Buchanan, Neil Gates, Kevin Ford & Alex Lee. The latter attracts attention because of his fast 'Laser-type' presentation. Sounds good! One new commercial has been introduced: Don Valley convenience food. It sounds similar to the Lotto 6-49 one using the same

offshore news



reunions from years gone by...

Don Valley convenience food is a Canadian product, so it may have something to do with the Canadian financiers of Caroline! One rectification: Last time we mentioned Jerry JONES as being a new Caroline deejay. This must be Jerry JAMES. He used to work on Invicta but became superfluous because of reorganisation. Subsequent detail: Jerry was one of the 1st people who sailed to the Ross during the raid. His story can be heard in detail in the excellent BSL documentary 'No man will ever forget Sea Aug. 1971'. The story goes that because of the arrival of the boat with Jerry James and other people, worse damage to the Ross was prevented. Jerry is hoping to find a permanent job on land and uses his current job on the Ross to tide over. Another Caroline deejay, Rob Harrison, left the station and is now doing pps on Contact 96 on the Channel Islands. Rob is replacing another former Caroline jock: Susan Charles. Persistent rumours remain circulating about a new 20 kW tx for Caroline 558. This tx should be delivered as soon as the registration of the Ross Revenge is 100% o.k. A few bats and pieces with regard to Viewpoint: In compare with August 10 programmes haven't returned. Among them Roy Masters and Johan Maasbach. Against these disappearances, there are a total of 5 new religious pps on 558.

M.V. NANNELL

Since our last info with regard to the MV Nannell, the situation hasn't become clearer. The ship left her anchorage 30 miles off the Belgian coast and sailed to Cork in Ireland. Then the ship sailed to Wexford, a port in the S-W of the Irish Republic. And the latest reports suggest that the ship is now somewhere in South-England. The journey to Ireland took place early October. When the ship sailed back to England isn't known, most probably early November. A rather strange and unbelievable story is the fact the ship is going to be used as a broadcasting vessel in the South-Chinese sea with propaganda transmissions beamed to China to inform the population about what really happened last June. Perhaps this info makes no sense at all - it could be a publicity stunt - but this rumour was not only circulating within offshore circles. We won't hold back the following info: recently the newservice of the Belgian BRT reported that a number of French publishers were willing to put a broadcasting vessel off the coast of China. The name of Steve Masters, former Laser deejay was mentioned in connection with the Nannell. For safety's sake: the latter wasn't part of the BRT news! Finally we mention the fact that Radio 48 reported in its 'World of Radio' that the Nannell isn't a broadcasting vessel anymore. The ship would have been sold as a coaster. Radio 48 confirmed the fact that the Nannell had really been anchored off the Belgian coast for a few months. According to Radio 48, the Nannell is currently in an English port.

offshore news

M.V. COMMUNICATOR

It's getting more and more difficult to supply you with RELIABLE info with regard to the MV Communicator. One important reason is of course the fact the ship is not in W-Europe. Since the past summer, it is in Portugal and that doesn't make things easier. It was reported that the ship would have been raided by Portuguese authorities in October. Neither the British DTI, nor the Dutch OGD claim they knew anything from abroad and this makes the whole case, to say the least, unreliable. Isn't it easy to spread all kinds of rumours knowing that these rumours can't be controlled because the ship is invisible because it is lying in the very southern part of Europe? What would be the interest of Portuguese authorities in the Communicator? Only when they were looking after Dutch or British interests, it would be understandable. The truth could be lying in between, as it could be true that police has only had a look on the ship without confiscating equipment. Latest reports suggest the ship has left Portugal heading for Morocco. This can only be taken serious when there really were problems in Portugal with authorities.

OFFSHORE VARIA

In this column not only offshore items (as the title suggests) but also news about former offshores deejays. So in one or another way it has something to do with offshore anyhow.....

- Robin Rose is no more Head of Music on Radio Radio. The British satellite radio-station still is unsuccessful and one wonders how long the station will continue its activities. Robin was one of the deejays on Caroline when the station returned in August of 1983. He was offered another less 'interesting' job on Radio Radio.
- The name of Radio Paradise will be used for a new Belgian radio-station (on a legal basis). A.J. Beirens, former 'RNI Goes DX' presenter, also known for his shows on the legendary European Music Radio, the station of former FRSH deejay Barry Stephens, is currently involved in this project.
- Steve Marike, ex-RNI & Caroline jock, moved to Australia where he has found a new job in the radio-industry. Another former Caroline deejay is Richard Jackson and he is still working on the other side of the world in Thailand having its own radio station in Bangkok.

• Tony Blackburn is 'flying high'. The management of Capital Radio claims there are a million listeners hearing his job every day. Not bad Tony....

• Who remembers Oliver Smedley? He died aged 76. He was one of the founders of Radio Atlanta, the station which merged with Radio Caroline in 1964. In 1966 Smedley shot Reginald Calvert, the owner of Radio City at that time. They had an argument about a transmitter which belonged to Smedley who lent it to Mr. Calvert. Smedley was acquitted because for self-defence reasons. Radio City continued broadcasting after the accident under the leadership of Mrs. Calvert. Those were the days.....

offshore news

MAILBOX 41

We're back on the air and our new address is getting filled with letters and cassette tapes for our X-Hits programme. Peter has even had to hire a special van to get all the mail back to his place. A lot of letters coming from the GDR where the political situation has changed dramatically over the past month. We all wish all our friends in the GDR the best and hope that the new situation makes it easier for them to listen and write to us!

'Dear friends', writes Michael Andersson of Malmö in Sweden, 'thank you very much for a very good magazine. I am enjoying it very much. There is only one thing I would like (...). He and some friends listen to FM during the weekends and pick up a lot of stations from the Netherlands. It is not very easy (...) to hear the 10's (...). Perhaps you could fill the gap a bit, and publish the stations heard lately with addresses.'

We are very sorry Michael, but we're only devoted to SW and offshore radio. So we don't intend to publish information about FM-stations, nor since we don't have the necessary info ourselves. But maybe one of our listeners/readers know where to obtain this information. If so, please write to us and we will pass it on to Michael.

Long standing member Christian Bergmann from Elstertrebnitz GDR wrote a whopping total of 3 letters within one month. One of them read: 'It was nice to hear FRSH back on short wave. The signal was not bad. We have now reached a new stage in the history of our country. Now everyone is allowed to visit also western countries. It means for me it will be more easier to pay my subscription for the membership in your club.' In another one he writes: 'It was a pleasure to hear your four hour broadcast today. I tried already last Sunday to pick up FRSH, but the most important thing is that FRSH is now back on shortwave. I'm very curious on your new schedule and your new single package. I wish to thank you for the 'Bonds alternative' over the past years. I enjoyed always his show and it's a pity that there are no longer 'Bonds alternative'. But I'm sure FRSH will present an alternative show in January 1990! Unfortunately I missed your 'International Listeners Letter Show' today. I guess a lack of time must have been the reason.'

'After a long time, I think one then a year, I send you this reception report concerning yesterday's transmission on 7310 kHz. Incidentally I turned up and down the SW bands and so I found FRSH. The programme quality was, as in the last 9-12 years, of a very high standard, it is good to have stations like FRSH in Holland, because what I received over the last 1 year concerning SW broadcasts was mostly very poor. In fact I noticed there are not many stations active regularly on the bands these days that can be received in good quality', writes Stefan Croonen from Vogelsien, BRD.

Stefan Frantz from Rydaholm in Sweden gave us a bit of a worry: 'Many thanks for your last issue of FRSDX (nr. without digits, have you lost in count...?). We've been looking all over the place, but we couldn't find them either, so we informed the police who have now a former FRSH administrator in custody, helping them with their enquiries.'

'Hello friends, another year is coming to an end and I just want to say thanks!' writes Uwe Kellermann from Groß-Sierau in BRD. 'The Free Radio Service Holland provided us listeners, with yet another year of excellent programs and FRG magazines. Keep on going!'

'I received both the FRSH cast transmissions as well as the regular broadcast on 7310 kHz in November. Reception was excellent on both occasions, as far as the signal and the modulation was concerned. It seems as if you've found a reliable transmitting facility for your station, congratulations!', says Björn Quack, Duisburg, BRD.

fr.s. letters



Horst Gernovsky, Sangerhausen, DDR, writes: 'Ich möchte mit etwas Verspätung diesen Brief nach Eurer Sendung vom 24.12.1989 an Euch senden. Nicht daß es recht getreut, weil wieder ein deutsches Programm von FRS Holland zu hören. Ich bin ja ein langjähriger Hörer, der FRSH von Anfang an kennt aber leider oft keine Zeit fand, auch zu schreiben. Bei solch einem herrlich klaren Empfang möchte ich mir zum Abschied die Zeit dafür nehmen. Das Radio hat bei mir sehr gut an (...) "FRS goes dx" im Anschlag gehört zu meinen Stammseinstellungen. Auf Jop ter Zee's neues Programm bin ich gespannt.'

Rest on only to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Gerd

MORE OFFSHORE VARIA (cont. of page)

- The final (?) court-case with regard to a claim from a Panamanian company called Panlieve SA will be held in Amsterdam Friday October 29th. Panlieve SA was the company owning the Radio Paradise ship Magda Maria. The company lodged a claim of several millions against the Kingdom of The Netherlands. The Dutch authorities have tried to make an arrangement but Panlieve SA didn't agree. The Dutch authorities only offered a relatively small amount of money.
- Frits Mulder alias Frits Koning - under the latter name he worked on Radio Monique in its heydays - had to leave Cable Ace because the station wasn't allowed on Dutch cablenetworks anymore. Now he's working on freelance basis on a regional Utrecht station.
- Who remembers Tom Collins? One of the well-known Veronica jocks in its offshore period. He is now doing voice-over work for Veronica TV. A good voice-over is invaluable!! We at FRS-Holland know a thing or two about that....
- Aruta Sheva, the second broadcasting station in the Mediterranean and 'neighbour' of the Voice of Peace, has extended programming with a further two hours. The station is now on air between 07.00-24.00 hours. Recently the ship went to a port for essential maintenance.
- Tim Allen, one of the many former Caroline jocks, was heard on the 'Shoppadiostation' of RNV, one of London's giant CO/Albee shops.
- Christiaan St. John, who worked on several offshore stations and who did his last offshore stint on Caroline (in the period the station was on 576 & 963) as a deejay and head of the newservice (under the name Jay Jackson) has started his own radiostation. The station is called KNRB and it concerns a low-powered operation and as it is rumoured Howard Rose - that's his real name - will be joined by Paul Graham (ex-Caroline) and Alan West.
- Lawyers, being representatives for the organization behind Radio New York Int., will start up legal proceedings against the FCC who made an end on the tras of RNI from the ship the NY Sorah.
- The Dutch OGD 'invited' a number of persons for interviews concerning Radio 819 and Radio Monique. It appears that a number of persons is not willing to co-operate. They kept their mouth shut. As a result some of them had to stay in jail for a short while. A judgment concerning the Rose road will follow in 1990.

DIGITAL RADIO



Digital radio, a logical pursuit to digital records, the compact disc. In Germany they developed the idea to spread this kind of radio via satellite. In September of this year Digital their own satellite receiver, but also in future to subscribers to cable-networks.

Six years ago DSR was demonstrated for the first time to the visitors of the "Funkausstellung" in Berlin. At that time the experimental satellite OTS-2 was used. During this year's Funkausstellung DSR was started officially. Everybody can receive sixteen different stereo-signals at home via the German Kopernikus satellite.



For individual reception a dish is needed of course, but also a special digital tuner to make digital signals audible. Various European manufacturers, a.o. Grundig, Telefunken and Philips, offer such an apparatus, to be placed between your satellite dish and your hi-fi stereo-equipment. These tuners aren't cheap yet: between D.M. 1.500 and 4.000. It will last quite a time before cable networks will be distributing these signals.

DSR was invented and developed in Germany. At the end of the 70's plans were developed to launch public broadcasting satellites to distribute television. Soon it was suggested to broadcast radio-signals at the same time. At that time the change-over from AM to FM was a giant improvement in audio-quality, but real CD-quality wasn't reached yet. Satellite-broadcasting would offer such a chance. That was the birth of DSR. German industry and official institutions like the Bundespost were involved in it.

Digital technique offers the possibility to broadcast sixteen (!) radio-signals in stereo (or 32 mono-signals) via one t.v.-channel. Quality is very superior to FM. At this year's Funkausstellung the German Minister of Post and Telecommunication officially launched DSR. At this occasion he said that a new era in the history of radio had begun.

The great advantage of "DR" is that there is no loss of audio-quality regarding the transfer of the signal. The signal

From the studio to the transmitter and from there to the satellite. From the satellite it goes back to the earth again. Individual dish-owners and cable networks receive this digital signal. The signal is transferred to the cable-subscribers in the same digital way. So, even when you are connected to a cable-network you'll have to buy the special tuner we already mentioned. Apart from the splendid audio-quality DSR offers you unequalled operation comfort. Every signal will be accompanied by a special code which enables the receiver to make a choice out of the sixteen programmes. When somebody presses the button "classic" his receiver will automatically search such a programme. The system consists of categories like news, sports, education, science, pop, rock and politics. Furthermore DSR enables to vary the volume of speech and music separately.

In the middle of next year the ultimate division of the 16 channels will be made. Every single federal state of Germany will be offered at least one channel. Also the national Deutschlandfunk and RIAS from Berlin will get an own channel. Apart from public broadcasters some private societies will get a place. As an example Star-Sat Radio has taken one of the channels on the satellite as first commercial broadcaster.

The Kopernikus satellite will cover the whole of Germany, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Austria and Denmark. So, digital radio will come the reach of a lot of Europeans.

ATLANTIC 252

In a recently published press-bulletin, the management of Atlantic 252 makes mention of the fact the station has a weekly reach of one million listeners. In last month's edition of 'Frs Goes DX' we mentioned a reach of 1.5 million. 40% of this group belongs to the target group being people aged between 16 and 24.

One of the strange things is that reception quality varies a lot. Perhaps not in the UK and Ireland which is relatively close to the tx location. But for continental listeners the level of the signal-strength differs quite often and that clearly leaves its mark on the overall reception quality. Reception can be very loud and clear while other times the station is much weaker. In cases such as the latter the station is hardly to separate from the French speaking co-user of 254 kHz.

Positive is the overall sound of the station. Lots of new and professional voice-overs are being used. Also the presentation team is doing a very good job. The presenters are all presenting on high standard making listening rather enjoyable. Atlantic 254 can be reached via Box 252, London W1E 2NA is the UK.



- * The **ITALIAN RADIO RELAY SERVICE** is airing a monthly DX-Show which is presented by Dario Monferini. The latter is quite known in the world of DX and publishes a weekly newspaper called 'Play DX'. The DX-pr on the IRRS is presented in Italian and partly in English. The station uses 9860 but is testing on 13790 kHz.

Frs Feature



In this last short wave report of 1989, the month of November is covered as well as the first two weeks of December. Conditions haven't been brilliant but on the other hand not too bad. However, the splendid conditions of 1980/1981 is something we are still waiting for. In this Dec. report we'll specially refer to those stations putting special X-Mas broadcasts on air Dec. 23th & 26th.

- * Who remembers last year's broadcasts of **X-MAS RADIO**? This Dutch station only broadcasts one time a year under this name. Last year X-Mas Radio was on air on X-Mas and Boxing Day on 7315 kHz with one of the best signals in the band. For this year 12 hours of broadcasts are being planned. Mon Dec. 25th starts will be commenced at 00.00 CET and shows will last till 13.00 CET. Frequencies will be 7310 kHz plus a frequency within the 48 mb (unknown at the moment but most probably between 6200- 6240 kHz). The same schedule will be repeated on Boxing Day but the programming will be different. As an extra the daytime programmes of Dec. 25th will be repeated in the night of Monday to Tuesday (probably between 21.00- 03.00 CET) and the Boxing Day programming will be repeated in the night of Tuesday to Wednesday (same time as Mon to Tues). X-Mas is not just an ordinary SW station. The music will be experimental/alternative. Moreover the deejays are not just anybody: most of them are active in the professional world of radio music in the Netherlands but also outside The Netherlands. So programme-wise it should be very professional pax which will be aired. Last year there were rather serious when just one day before the actual programming a new transmitting location had to be found because a farmer didn't keep his promise.... With the help of a few persons X-Mas Radio succeeded in finding a suitable and reliable location from which the pax were broadcasted. Looking back to the less nice experiences last year, the station didn't take any risks and by now a 100% reliable location has been found. So nothing will prevent the station from broadcasting over the X-Mas period. Address: P.O. box 7315, Amsterdam.

- * **SUD-WEST RADIO** from W-Germany made an unexpected return on SW Sun Dec. 10th. The station was not operating on its former fixed frequency of 6235 but on 6225 kHz. As always a very strong signal was received on the continent. SWK was and is one of the most popular SW stations among W-German free radio DX-ers. Future plans are unknown but it may be expected the station will continue. During 1989 almost no show were broadcasted by SWK. Perhaps a special X-Mas Show will be aired? (if it was mentioned in their Dec. 10th pax, we missed it!).

- * **EAST COAST COMMERCIAL** sent us a press-release, making mention of its special annual X-Mas broadcast. The show will be aired Mon Dec. 25th and frequencies must be known by most DX-ers: 6815 & 11.512 kHz. The latter could vary a kHz or so. During this live trm ECC will have an on-air telephone line available for its listeners. Dial 04853- 2742 if you live in the UK. Continental listeners should dial the Int. access code followed by the UK country-code and then 4853- 2742.

S.W. NEWS

The telephone number will only be available to ECC for Mon Dec. 25th and not for other occasions! Currently the station is running a weekly 11.00-14.00 CET schedule although the station was missing Sun Dec. 10th. Power on 6815 in 20W and on 11.512 12W. For these 12W results are really very good! Address: X.

- * According to Neel West, DX-editor of Radio ECC, **RADIO APOLLO** may resume broadcasting again during Spring 1990. Apollo address is (X).

* **RADIO 48**, one of Britain's better SW stations, was heard Sun Nov. 19th with good signal-strength in the UK and on the continent. The future of the station looks a bit more promising since a fair amount of letters was received for the October broadcast. Radio 48 has plans for 41 ab tras during nighttime but at present this idea is on hold. We've been informed the station now uses the Henstons address.

* Following the celebration of its 17th birthday on October 29th, **RADIO GEMINI** was again active a week later. It was a repeat of the special Birthday Show of Oct. 29th and the signal-strength on 6220 kHz was fair/good on the continent. Address: 32 Fuller Rd, Boxmore, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. HP1 1QN in the UK.

* **BRITAIN RADIO INT.** has been doing no SW broadcasts because of certain problems we won't mention. It can be expected that BRI will be on air on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th, with its traditional X-Mas broadcast. This will be most probably on 6230. Address: 32 Victoria Rd, Salisbury, Wiltshire in the UK.

* Activity Magazine reports that London based veteran FM rockers **RPM** continue to broadcast on 6316 with particularly in the UK good signals. The 6316 signal is a relay of their FM service in London. The station is planning to move to a new channel. On the continent RPM is to be received with poor/fair signal.

* **RADIO RAINBOW GERMANY** was noticed during several occasions in Nov. The final (?) tra was heard Sun Nov. 26th. A nice and clear signal was picked up on 6240 kHz. It seems that ERG has had arguments with fellow German Free Radio people and this is one of the reasons for ceasing tras. The FR newsheet 'Free Radio Disaster', regularly published by the station, won't be printed anymore. It is likely the ERG crew is going to concentrate on FM. Not too long ago German authorities closed down ERG's address in Stolberg but luckily they have a 2nd address which is P.O. Box 65027, 3000 DA in Rotterdam. Sun Nov. 26th ERG was not only heard on 6240 but also on 7430. This signal was punning simultaneously with 6240 and was rather poor.

* **RADIO LUCE**, the French station, has apparently left 7375 (at last!!) and is now on a much better frequency being 6520 kHz. 7375 has always been a problem since there are (very) almost every Sun so-called Spy Number stations on this frequency making reception of Radio Luce impossible. 6520 is occupied on a weekly basis. Address: BP 130, 92504 Neuilly Cedex in France.

S.W. NEWS



* One of the odd loggings in November was **RADIO WMR** from The Netherlands. The station was using 6404, a rather unusual frequency. A nijmegen address was mentioned and the station was noted on 14.30 UTC. Who has the exact address??

* **RADIO SCORPIO** returned after a long absence in SW land Sun Nov. 5th. In the past Scorpio used to be relayed by the SFRM but due to the new law in Ireland, making illegal broadcasting quite difficult, the relays had to be cancelled. Although the SFRM returned from a new transmitting site in Scotland, Scorpio didn't return via them. Currently Scorpio is relayed via the French station Radio Luce on 6520 kHz. The Nov. 5th tra was heard in good quality and it can be expected Scorpio will continue on 6520 provided the signal remains satisfactory. Address: (4).

* **RADIO UNIVERSUM** has become one of the 'permanent' users of the 7420-7500 kHz frequency range. Nov. 12th the station was on 7430 but had to change because of utility. 7480 was then used and later on that same morning another change was made to 7425 kHz. Fair/good reception was noted. Address: (2).

* One of the most active British stations around X-Mas is **WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO** from Scotland. Last year several broadcasts were carried out with especially on 15043 kHz excellent reception on the continent. The live phone-ins were very enjoyable and although we have no specific info for this year's schedule, we assume WMR will be on air in the 48 & 19 ab. Keep an eye on the following frequencies: 15045(3), 15065, 15640, 15680, 13630, 21810 & 21846 kHz. If there are special X-Mas broadcasts, they will be carried out during daytime but also during nighttime. Daytime programming could be live with a telephone line open for interested listeners. The address: 42 Arran Close, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4JH in GB.

Keeping the Fight for Free Radio alive and kicking!

PFBS RADIO

SUNDAYS ON 60, 48 AND 41 METRES SHORTWAVE!

* **PIRATE PEEKS BROADCAST SERVICE** has been rather active during the past few weeks. Sun Nov. 5th the station was noted with good reception on 6292 as early as 03.00 CET! Sun Nov. 19th PFBS was logged on 6240 with good reception on the continent and poor reception in the UK. During this broadcast it was announced by station OP Pirate Andy that the future of PFBS depends on the listener's response. Sun Nov. 19th the station was also heard on 7490 Sat Nov. 25th PFBS was again heard on 6240. Sun Nov. 26th a good signal was heard on 6235 kHz. The station uses a 30W transmitter and can be contacted via (4).

* **RADIO ACTION** from Holland can be heard every two to three months, most of the time on Sat. The station always uses 6707 kHz. Sat Nov. 18th Action made one its rare appearances with music shows only a no further 'specific' SW ps (letter or DX-show). Address: P.O. Box 26, 7030 AA Wehl in The Netherlands.

S.W. NEWS



* Now some news from **WONDERFUL FREE RADIO LONDON**. The station missed its 1st Sun broadcast in Nov. due to site problems. A week later the station was on air on 6275, unfortunately 'Tender Trip', the popular offshore newsprogramme was missing. Sat Nov. 11th the station had a kind of extra trm on 6275 between 10.00-13.00 UTC. A new deejay named Terry Phillips made his debut on WFLR during this occasion. Andy Walker informs us that WFLR is currently testing on higher frequencies. Dec. 3rd the station tested on 1749B kHz between 00.30-07.30 UTC, that's within the 17 mb. More tests have been or will be carried out on 15166 and/or 15729 kHz. It's rather sad to know that WFLR will close down its regular 1st & 2nd Sun schedule as from Febr. 1990 onwards. From that moment on the station will be on every 5th Sun. The 1st 5th Sun broadcast will take place Sun April 29th when the station will celebrate 4 years of SW broadcasts. In addition to the already mentioned frequencies also keep an eye on 9970, 11170 & 11153. Tests are carried out very early on Sun mornings. It's more than likely that WFLR can be heard with special X-Mas pxs on either Dec. 25th or 26th. There's a chance also one of the earlier mentioned higher frequencies will be used, perhaps in parallel with 6275 in the 48 mb. Address: (3).

- * **RADIO REBEL** is a new V-German station and is planning relays via the facilities of Radio waves Int. The RMI address will be used for the time being (see Radio Luca!).
- * **RADIO ORION** continues with weakly 11.00-15.00 CET trms on 6299. Orion pxs feature a lot of 1970's stuff and so now and then people can phone the station during a trm. The big 'O' as the station calls itself is still one of Britain's most regular SW broadcasters. Address: Box 1280, Rednall, Birmingham B43 8SG in the UK.
- * **FALCON RADIO** from the UK continues with its early morning Sunday trms on 6570 kHz. Trms tend to cease a bit later than usual as the station was heard a few times after 10.00 CET. Signal quality varies from poor to good on the continent. Most of the time closer to poor than to good. The station plays a selection of quality rock music. Address: MAC, Box 109, Northampton in the UK.
- * **DELTA RADIO** from the UK tested Sat Nov. 11th on 6232 after a break of a few months. This test was carried out in preparation for regular broadcasts. Strong reception was noted in the UK. Address (3)
- * As mentioned in November, **RADIO FAMELA** returned on SW. This happened on 7440 kHz on Sun Nov. 19th via the facilities of RMI in France. Richard Grahame as the responsible person and not Steve Most who ran the station before it was raided some time ago. UK address: 10 Bromyard Crescent, Paulsgrove, Portsmouth PO6 3JP in the UK.



- * **TOTAL CONTROL RADIO** returned on Sat Nov. 4th with a nighttime trm on 6275. Both in the UK and on the continent a good signal was noted. Address: see Luca!

S.W. NEWS

NEWS FROM AROUND THE



* The court-case between the organisation behind the MV Sarah (Radio New York Int'l) and the FCC has been won by the latter. The Court of Justice decided that the intervention by the FCC was fully legal. According to the Court of Justice the FCC is not only responsible for all radio & television broadcasts in the U.S., but also for transmissions beamed at the U.S. ! Perhaps the responsible persons are now 100% convinced that any offshore project off the U.S. coast is doomed to failure. And that means there's at least some chance the Sarah will 'visit' the European waters...

- * A radio-station in a tv-commercial. No gossip. Till November 10th BBC television played a commercial (or better: promo-spot) of GLR which stands for Greater London Radio. The promo included shots of former offshore personalities like Tony Vance and Johnny Walker.
- * Perhaps less famous or popular but nevertheless also former offshore jocks are Jerry Hoogland (Mi Asigo 272) and Perry Eden (Mi Asigo 272, Mi Asigo, Caroline and Montique). They present radio-shows on Domstad Radio in Utrecht, a legal and local radiostation transmitting via cable and transmitter.
- * Now available a Voice of Peace video called 'The Video, The VoP'. It's a 34 min. video, recorded in 1988 by Coconut (yes, the Caroline deejay). On this fairly interesting video a lot of action on the ship itself (studios, maintenance etc.) but also an impression of a supply in the port of Ashdod. A VoP album can be expected in future, produced by Dave Asher. The video can be obtained via Offshore Echoes via their new address: Box 1514, London W7 2LL in the UK. It is delivered on VHS and costs £ 18.00.
- * For real offshore lovers there's an unique cassette available of Atlas as a radio, the former offshore station which joined forces with Caroline already after a short broadcasting time. A 90 min. copy on good quality for £ 10.-/DM 10/- 3.00 via P.O. Box 102, 9700 AC Groningen in The Netherlands. And don't forget to add you read it in this very magazine...
- * **RTL-V**, the latest new Dutch satellite tv-station, has plans to start a number of radiostations. Veronique (don't confuse it with the Dutch broadcasting society Veronique!) will soon introduce the first of a series of satellite radiostations. The first station will be called Veronique Light and its format will be similar to Cable One. The latter was brainchild of former Veronica, Northsea and Montique deejay Joost de Draaier but was forced to close a couple of weeks ago because it was, according to Dutch law, a Dutch station. And that's forbidden. Veronique is a Luxembourg station with programmes beamed at the Dutch audience (because the majority of shows are in Dutch). Anyway, Veronique Light will be playing Middle of the Road with lots of oldies. No heavy tracks! Rumours are circulating that Veronique Light will join forces with Cable One. The latter is so sore on Dutch cable networks. All employees were fired but may return on the radio via Veronique Light.
- * Veronique wants to become the first Dutch broadcasting society going commercially. Veronique claims to have a complete plan to start as soon as possible. That would mean Veronique will disappear as a public broadcasting society. On the other hand: instead of only two, the station could be 7 days a week on television. What the consequence is for radio isn't known.

Annual Report 1989

JANUARY

Aerial jiggers start to work on a new antenna system aboard the Caroline ship Koss Revenge. The completion should enable both Caroline 538 & Radio 819 to up power giving much better coverage in W-Europe.

- * Fire in the machine-room of the Ross Revenge. No one is injured but there's quite some damage.
- * As from Jan. 24th Caroline introduces a new & alternative Rockservice on 819 following each evening's close-down of Viewpoint pks. The name of the service is Caroline 819- The Overnight Alternative
- * The new Irish Broadcasting & Wireless Telegraphy Act 1988 comes into effect as from Jan. 1st 1989 onwards. The end of several professional AM & FM broadcasters but also the end of a number of well-known SW operations from Irish ground. Most known ones are Radio Fax, Westside Radio, the Scottish Free Radio Network and not to forget Radio Rainbow Int.
- * David Lee Stone, former Laser deejay, returns on Radio Luxembourg 208 with taped programmes.
- * Britain Radio Int. is carrying out test broadcasts in order to look for a new and better channel. 6305 won't be used anymore due to bad results.
- * The West-German station Radio Batida is raided by the German post Jan. 22nd. The first raid in W-Germany is more than 4 years. Batida used to carry out rather lengthy broadcasts.
- * FRS-Holland starts the year with a regular 3rd Sun broadcast on Sun Jan. 15th on 6240. The 3 hour broadcast suffers from the poor band condition. Reasonable reception on the continent but poor results in the UK. In one way strange since reasonable reception is reported in areas further away from the FRS transmitting location than various British areas where reception is much worse. Is there anyone on the Northsea doing strange things with our signal???

FEBRUARY

- * For the second time this year fire on the Ross, this time in the galley. No persons injured and tras continue during the fire. Aerial work continues but heavily depends on the Northsea weather which is very unfavourable in this time of the year.
- * Febr. 12th Europe's newest commercial short wave service officially commences tras from Italy. Name of the service: the Italian Radm Kely Service. Frequency is 9860 kHz in the 31ab with 10 kW of power. The service only transmits on Sundays.
- * Radio Dublin, one of the very few Irish stations ignoring the new law, is raided Tuesday Febr. 7th at 06.10. Trms are resumed that same day on FM. Five days later, Febr. 12th, Dublin is raided for the second time. A few hours later that same day 'Captain' Eamon Cooke's station once again returns on FM!!
- * Atlanta Radio, one of Europe's legendary SW free radio operators, celebrates 10 years of SW broadcasts with a magnificent Birthday Show with a lengthy broadcast on 6242 & 6274 kHz.
- * Radio 819 deejays on strike (till March 4th) because there are not enough people on the Ross to do all the work being part of the 819 operation.

* FRS-Holland takes steps to have longer trms, a better signal and a fixed frequency. FRS's broadcasting policy is aimed at 4 to 5 hour monthly tras with a solid signal on a

* The annual presentation of the Billboard Awards took place in New York recently. For the second time in succession **WHTZ** was voted as the best Top 40 station. **WHTZ**, better known as **Z100**, also received an award in the category Music Director of the Year. The MD of **Z100** received this award for the 2nd time in a row. In the category Adult Station of the Year the LA based station **KOST** FM 103 got the award. The best Black Station was **WJZ** of Chicago (better known as **WJZ** FM). Best Station of the Year became **LIVE** 105, officially called **KITS**. This station comes from San Francisco. In the category Network and Syndicated Music Programmes Casey's Top 40 got an award in the sub category Top 40. Dick Bartley's Rock 'n' Roll Oldies Show in the category Adult, Walt Love's Countdown in the category Black, Bob Kingsley's American Country Countdown in the category Country and finally a programme called Rockline in the Rock category. The first three of these 5 awards went to the well-known Syndicator Westwood One Productions.

* **ITN** is currently investigating the possibilities of acquiring one of the new national licences for starting a national commercial radio station in Great Britain. There will be three national commercial broadcasting stations in Great Britain. A special committee is set up to look at the possibilities of running a national 24 hour newscast. If **ITN** decides to submit an application, it will be for one of the two AM frequencies. The application of **LBC** will be then cancelled since the latter is largely owned by **ITN**.

* **208 on satellite**. The English AM Service of Luxembourg 208/1440 K is now also to be heard on satellite as extra audio channel belonging to RTL-Veronique. The Astra satellite. A few weeks ago the 208 sound was a kind of experiment, radiated by satellite. After a few days the experiment was dropped. As a result the London office of Luxy 208 was 'swamped' with telephone calls from people asking whether it was possible to bring the pks on a permanent basis on the Astra satellite. So at present time the whole of Europe is able to receive Radio Luxembourg in Hi-Fi Stereo. A well-known former Luxembourg deejay, Rob Jones, is back on 208 with a sponsored show. This is done via a specially for that purpose established firm. Also on Luxy 208 is former Caroline deejay Ian Mack plus Tony Murrell, who's coming from the Irish free radio Wick Martin left the station. Luxembourg also started a satellite FM Service with special pks for Scandinavia. The English Service is passed on for re-broadcast via cable networks in the UK. The signal is, as already mentioned, in stereo and Astra passes the signal on via the RTL-Veronique subcarrier.

* **DX-Tips**. WRN0's DX-Show, called the World of Radio, can be heard every Friday between 00.00- 00.30 hours. Mr. SW himself, Glenn Hauser, is presenting this interesting show. Frequency

Then mentions of European stations: Radio Austria Int. broadcasts a media-programme on Saturdays on 6155 kHz. The pks are broadcasted at 06.05, 09.05, 12.05 and 15.05 hours. On 5945 kHz at 18.05 and 21.05 hours. New items in the show are Amateur DI and Computer Special. Swiss SW Merry Go Round is broadcasted on Sundays by Swiss Radio Int. at 09.30, 15 and 20 hours on 3985, 6165 and 9335 kHz.

Fixed channel. Due to reasons beyond our control the Febr. 3rd Sun broadcast is cancelled. However, the 4th Sun FRS is on with an excellent signal on the new 'old' 7315 kHz in the 41 mb. The only thing which could be improved is avoiding interference from the high-powered BBC tx on 7325 kHz.

MARCH

- Radio Caroline celebrates 25 years of broadcasting from the high seas. Over the Easter weekend an All Time Top 1001 is aired and on B19 a top 200 of Album Tracks. A lot of attention is paid on Caroline's Birthday by the British media. A BBC film crew is aboard the Ross. Disappointing is the fact no voices of the past are being heard during Caroline's on air celebrations.
- Radio Galaxy from W-Germany hits the airwaves with a 7 hour trm using no less than 1000 watts of power. The station will receive a lot of letters for the trm. Pxs are of high standard.
- East Coast Commercial starts testing on 11515 kHz in the 25 mb.
- The FRS March trm is, as a kind of result of the late Febr. one, again on a 4th Sun. Nice coincidence: the trm takes place on Easter Sun. As the results of the Febr. broadcast are promising, it is decided that pxs continue to be aired on 7315 kHz. Besides: a good and definitive opinion can only be made after a few broadcasts. The Easter Sun broadcast was a long one: 5 hours. Signal-quality is more than satisfactory during that day. In the mean time negotiations continue with regard to the use of a new transmitting location, together with a new station called Radio 7315.

APRIL

- Communicator leaves its moorings and sails to Harwich (April 8th). One day later the ship is towed seaward by a tug! The start of a new broadcasting episode??
- Work on the new masts on board the Ross continues very slowly.
- Britain Radio Int. concludes a series of test April 9th and starts official programming on the brandnew 6230 kHz frequency April 23rd. New 2nd & 4th Sun schedules are being introduced.
- Radio Stella/ the Scottish Free Radio Network return on SW in the 41 mb on... 7315!
- Radio 101 returns after a 6 months' break on a brandnew frequency in the 19 mb: 15015 kHz. After all the frequency seems not to provide the reception one is hoping for.
- A new UK-based SW station is commencing broadcasts on 48 metres: Laser Radio. The name is NOT original but pxs seem to attract quite some listeners, especially in the UK.
- The former Radio Paradise ship Magda Maria is towed the Belgian port of Zeebrugge. The ship will be scrapped!
- The 4th 1989 FRS-Holland trm in a row is being made Sun April 16th with a rather low-powered tx: 20W. But it becomes clear that such low-powered units provide excellent reception with an efficient aerial system. The broadcast is planned on 7315 but a heavy jammer being operational on 7316 makes this plans impossible. It is decided to use 6240 in the 48 mb, a reliable frequency!

MAY

- Deejays aboard the Ross strike because the 819 organisation on land doesn't keep their promises. This is the 2nd strike within 2 months!
- It is revealed that hard work is carried out on the radioavesel MV Nannell, still lying in Santander/ Spain.
- Antenna system on Ross Revenge still not completed.
- Listening figures that Radio 819 has only between 15,000 and 25,000 listeners. A disaster for the station!
- Rumours circulate that Fred Bolland is involved in a new Dutch station commencing broadcasts on board the Communicator. Bolland travels to the UK to purchase a 30 kW FM unit (owned by Chris Garry). The Communicator is anchored off the French coast (dunkirk).
- May 30th Radio Dublin returns on SW on the old (but poor) 6910 kHz frequency. The station now broadcasts on AM, FM & SW.
- The Magda Maria is being broken up in the harbour of Zeebrugge.
- Work is progressing to bring a brandnew commercial LONG WAVE station on the air: Atlantic 252 (formerly Radio Tara). Trms will be carried out from Irish ground and two organisations are setting up this project: Radio Luxembourg and RTE.
- The regular FRS trm is back! on the 3rd Sun: May 21st a powerful signal was to be heard between 10.00 and 14.45 CET. An old-fashioned long FRS trm. We have the possibility to make use of a frequency below 7315 kHz. And so a crystal clear signal is to be heard on 7310 kHz without the slightest BBC interference. Reception reports were showing that 7310 was the ideal choice. Nice piece of information: the 7310 I-tal arrives just in time on the FRS 'headquarters'. It is unpacked and put into the envelope with the px cassettes and so the package arrives just in time on the tx location... SW is sometimes a thrilling business!!

JUNE

- A rather sensational news-item reaches our news-desk: the MV Nannell leaves the port of Santander on the 10th of June, a Saturday, heading for W-European waters. On the ship a giant 80m vertical antenna tower!
- Work is progressing to bring the brandnew Atlantic 252 on the air. The 800 ft. tower is completed. A very impressive giant for the 'anoraks' but NOT for the people living near this tower.
- Back to the Nannell: the ship has had problems with the aerial tower and is forced to sail back to Santander. Repairs are being carried out and the ship leaves Santander for the second time. The time the mast collapsed in full length off the French coast. The ship continues its journey and drops anchor 30 miles off the coast of Blankenberge. Remarks: we have NO confirmation whether the ship has from the moment the ship sails back to Santander, the mystery starts! According to several persons the ship did really drop anchor off the Belgian coast.... The ship is renamed in Mi Amigo II.
- It doesn't happen that often that British SW stations are raided. Laser Radio has the dubious honour being raided by British authorities. It seems it has also something to do with a FM operation. The raid takes place Sun June 18th.

* Especially time problems cause a week's delay of the FRS-Holland June tra which takes place June 25th with a mighty fine signal on 7310 kHz. Disappointing is the number of letters coming from the UK. A little investigation learns that FRS is by far the strongest station that Sunday in the UK, stronger than all UK stations broadcasting that Sunday. So it is NOT the reception quality causing the lack of response from the UK. Lack of interest??

The negotiations with the person willing to put our shows on the air from a brandnew and safe location fail simply because this guy is NOT RELIABLE. It's too risky to trust somebody who is not 100% reliable. The June tra is the last one for the time being because preparations are being made to bring a few changes. New ideas, a kind of new jingle-package etc. FRS hopes to be back in September..

JULY

- * The MV Communicator ups anchor and leaves the V-European waters heading for Portugal where a lot of work will be carried out to prepare the ship for a new broadcasting adventure.
- * The MV Mannell remains a mystery. A kind of ghost ship. Big question: where is she now? Off the Belgian coast or.....???
- * Atlantic 252 is (almost) ready to commence the first series of test-transmissions. Right at the end of July, Mon July 31st, the last test is carried out: a 600 Hz tone with a power of only 50 kW.
- * No FRS-Holland transmission. Preparations start to bring back FRS with a new sound. And.....Holidays.....!! FRS introduces a brand-new address.

AUGUST

- * The news is ofcourse the raid on the Ross Revenge August 19th. A lot of studio and transmitting equipment is confiscated plus the whole record collection. It is also the definitive end of Radio 819. The Dutch QCD action causes quite a stir. Thousands of Anoraks are upset but also angry.
- * Rumours with regard to the Communicator and the Mannell continue. It's a pity that most of these rumours are not being confirmed.
- * Two popular German SW stations return on the airwaves: PFBS & SWR.
- * Nighttime broadcasts on SW are getting more and more popular. A growing number of stations like the idea of nightbroadcasts. To mention just a few: PFBS, The Voice of The Netherlands, Radio Stella, WNR, Scotland, Radio Confession and last but not least Radio Rainbow Germany, one of the stations introducing this trend (and one of the most active nighttime broadcasters as well).
- * FRS-Holland is not back on the air. Still alot of work has to be done before FRS is able to return. The station is waiting for a set of voice-overs, recorded by an American dark-brown voice... August is also the month in which FRS 'celebrates' its 9th Birthday. This time in silence...

SEPTEMBER

- * What a strange situation: silence on 558, 819 & 6215. The Radio 819 project is 'past' but the Caroline organisation announces the station will return within a limited period. Nobody believes this story but.....already at the end of September test tones are heard on 558 kHz. And the tone is indeed coming from the Northsea. It appears that Chief Engineer Peter Chicago

f.r.s. feature

has converted the SW tx (which has only little damage because of the raid) into a AM unit. A masterpiece!!

- * There are rumours of Communicator leaving the port of Lissabon but these reports are NOT true. A Swiss consortium is involved in the plans to bring the ship back on the high seas as a broadcasting vessel. Lots of money are being invested. A 30 kW FM unit is going to be installed as well as a powerful SW tx for religious broadcasts.
- * Let's do it! With this shout Charlie Wolf opens Atlantic 252 Fra Sept. 1st following a long series of tests covering the whole of August. The station transmits on 254 kHz long wave and power is 500 kW. Only hits are being played, almost non-stop. A bit like Laser 558 in its heydays.
- * The Mannell is still lying in Int. Waters 30 miles off the Belgian coast!!!! There is even talk of VEF contact between the ship's captain and people on land. Are there Belgian people behind the project? Names of Patrick Valain and A.J. Beirnaes are mentioned.
- * Radio Tower, one of the better SW operations in The Netherlands, is celebrating its 1st anniversary Sept. 10th. The station announces a frequency change to 9912 kHz as the station hopes to reach more listeners on that frequency. An extra long Birthday Show is aired on 6240 with very good signal-strength.
- * Weekend Music Radio announces the station has received many reports from the USA, Canada and even Australia for its test-trms being carried out in the last Summer on 15 MHz as well as other higher frequencies.
- * FRS-Holland is still preparing a return. Work is still going on.

OCTOBER

- * Radio Caroline officially re-commences trms on 558, unfortunately on very low power. Although many persons hope and think the new antenna system is in use, it appears the latter is not the case. Peter Chicago is heard as a deejay on 558!
- * The MV Communicator is raided by Portuguese authorities. A lot of equipment is confiscated. Has the Dutch QCD something to do with this raid? The organisation says preparations will continue despite the act-back.
- * The Mannell is leaving the Int. Waters off the Belgian coast heading for Ireland (Cork). And then it sails to Wexford, also in the Rep. of Ireland. It is announced the financiers have withdrawn as a result of the raid on the Ross Revenge in August. The Harvey Bros. all being in possession of the Mannell- are looking for new financiers.
- * Due to reasons beyond our control, we haven't been able in completing the new set of jingles. We decide to wait another month and plan to return in November when everything is finished.

NOVEMBER

- * It is announced the raid on the Communicator hasn't taken place. The ship only is visited by a few police-men, perhaps even the latter story isn't true. A trick of the Communicator people??
- * Caroline 558 continues on low power. Viewpoint programming returns on 558 during the evening hours. But hardly anybody is able to listen because of the very poor signal quality....

f.r.s. feature

* The MV Hannell leaves Ireland heading for an unknown port in South-England. The ship is sold as a coaster. Other stories claim the ship will be used as a broadcasting vessel in Asian waters. A bit far-fetched, this last story. It is still NOT confirmed whether the ship is really lying in an UK port.

* FRS-Holland returns on SW but without new jingles etc. Still the work isn't completed. Positive is the test on Nov. 12th when a new powerful 150 W tx is being tried out. A test of 60 min. is carried out in preparation for the return of full pps a week later. Signal quality on 7310 is very satisfactory. On Nov. 12th nothing is to be heard on 7310. Although the pps are recorded and the tapes being sent to the location (express!) the tapes don't arrive in time. They arrive on the afternoon of the 12th, too late for being broadcast... A week later, Sun Nov. 26th, FRSN returns with a good signal on 7310. A 4 hour broadcast is aired across Europe and the listeners are told that the FRS crew has decided to introduce the new programming, jingles, ideas etc. in January 1990. FRS-Holland, a new sound into the 1990's!

DECEMBER

* What a relief. The set of voice-overs from the USA arrive via our mailing address and that enables us to finish off the set of new jingles.

* FRS-Holland's last 1989 but moreover last 1990's transmission on December 24th on 48 & 41 mb. For the first time since long on two frequencies. It's the 10th traditional FRSN X-Mas Party!!

RECTIFICATION:

* The Atlanta 10th Birthday broadcast didn't take place in February but in January! Our apologies for this wrong date!

FORGOTTEN:

* In September the last 'Weekly Report' is being published. This very popular highly rated English free radio newsheet always was the most updated source of info with regard to the world of Offshore & the SW bands. The last issue was published Sept. 9th (issue 278). 'WR' leaves a great void. Thanks to Ruth & Barry and all the regular contributors for their more than excellent job. We still miss you.

* As it is not enough yet another free radio publication called it a day in September. The last issue - 160 - of RadioTelex came out on the 24th Sept. The magazine was covering the world of SW, and was very up-to-date because of being published bimonthly. Bjorn, you did a great job and the same applies for your regular contributors. ALOE RT is sadly missed.

EPILOGUE:

I do realize this 1989 Annual Report isn't complete. I have done an attempt to be as complete as possible. I hope I have succeeded. Apologies for the perhaps important events which are not mentioned in the survey.

Peter Verbruggen

Late news: Caroline 558 will be broadcasting a special progr. on X-Mas Day between 13.00-17.00 CET featuring several voices from the recent past.

frs feature

ABC RADIO has been broadcasting from the tourist resort of Tramore since March 2nd 1982 and was based just a few miles from the city of Waterford.

ABC Radio was operated by a team of professional presenters both local and international, most of whom had worked for such well-known offshore radio stations as Radio Caroline and the Voice of Peace. ABC Radio was to broadcast from the most highly powered transmitter in South East Ireland and could be easily received as far afield as Wales and Western England as well as locally in County's Cork, Wexford, Tipperary, Carlow, Kilkenny and of course Waterford.

In July 1985 the station claimed that it broadcasted to approx. 120,000 people in the South East of Ireland, 24 hours a day. The programme format consisted of a mix of 8 contemporary pop records, 3 oldies and one new album track per hour. In terms of professional radio a cross between CWR and AC material. The weekday schedule was:

- 01.00 Russ Padmore's Nightshift
- 04.00 Sunrise 101 with Neil Butler
- 07.00 ABC Breakfast with Richard Staines
- 10.00 Dave Kent
- 13.00 Timmy Ryan
- 16.00 Drive with Tony Murrell
- 19.00 Rocky Cleare's Music Zone
- 22.00 Late Night Affair with Jimmy Ryan

The news was broadcasted on top of the hour between 07.00 and 02.00 and in the night at 04.00 and 06.00 hours.

On average about 8 minutes per hour during daytime consisted of commercials, with about two minutes the average at night. For those interested in the studio-equipment, here's a list:

Main on air studio:

- * 2 Technics SP10 skII record decks with SNE series 3 arms
- * 2 Shure SC35C Cartridges
- * 1 Citronic SMO7 mixer
- * 2 Spotmaster Stereo cartridge machines
- * 2 Nikko cassette machines
- * 1 Marantz tuner
- * 1 Leak amplifier
- * 2 ITT studio monitors
- * 1 Emla phone patch
- * 2 AKG D201 microphones
- * 1 pair Sennheiser headphones

Production studio

- * Fastax A-2 reel to reel tape machine
- * Spotmaster cartridge recorder
- * JVC cassette machine
- * Custom 6 channel mixing desk
- * 2 Pioneer record decks
- * AKG microphone
- * Koss headphones



frs feature

On 1026 kHz the station was using a 'Gates BC' 1 kW AM transmitter. The audio was processed by specially designed and built audio processor, model AM110. The antenna was an inverted L, quarter wavelength. On 100.7 MHz the station used an ABC FM200 audio processor with stereo enhancer, Nouva Electronics Multiplex stereo coder, ELT electronics synthesized exciter/driver and custom built QYU6-40 amplifier. The antenna was a 10dB gain stacked system, giving an ERP of some 800 watts.

History

ABC Radio commenced broadcasting on 2-3-82 on 729 kHz AM with 150 watts, stereo FM on 101.3 MHz started 3 weeks later making ABC Radio one of the first stations outside of Dublin to proper Multiplex stereo. In May 1982 a tx fire totally destroyed the AM tx and a standby tx, having only an output of 40 watts, had to be used until August of that year. The station then bought a Gates 1 kW transmitter from the USA. Due to the impending opening of RTE 1 in Cork on 729 kHz, the new tx was operated on 1008 kHz for about a month when interference from Hilversum in Holland caused the station to move to 1026 kHz. Also at that time the 40 watt standby tx was switched off. In May 1983 they replaced the original FM exciter with the ELT synthesized PLL exciter, resulting in improved audio quality and rock solid stability of frequency. It allowed the station everywhere in the frequency range between 88 and 108 MHz in 120 kHz steps. At that time the station was broadcasting on 101.1 MHz as they found that many sets in Ireland could be switched from AM to FM and there was no need to change the radio dial. In December 1984 ABC Radio moved its operation from Tranmore to Waterford City, as 95% of its customers were from Waterford! The AM tx was left in Tranmore, because it was simply impractical to operate such power efficiently in a city centre. In March 1985 the station was forced to move the FM channel to 100.7 MHz due to a new station in Wexford opening up on 101.1 MHz and consequently causing interference. The station of course is no longer on air following the Irish governments decision to legalise the bands but only permit certain stations to broadcast across the country.

PRIZE STATIONS

101 001	0	101 001	0	101 001	0
101 002	0	101 002	0	101 002	0
101 003	0	101 003	0	101 003	0
101 004	0	101 004	0	101 004	0
101 005	0	101 005	0	101 005	0
101 006	0	101 006	0	101 006	0
101 007	0	101 007	0	101 007	0
101 008	0	101 008	0	101 008	0
101 009	0	101 009	0	101 009	0
101 010	0	101 010	0	101 010	0
101 011	0	101 011	0	101 011	0
101 012	0	101 012	0	101 012	0
101 013	0	101 013	0	101 013	0
101 014	0	101 014	0	101 014	0
101 015	0	101 015	0	101 015	0
101 016	0	101 016	0	101 016	0
101 017	0	101 017	0	101 017	0
101 018	0	101 018	0	101 018	0
101 019	0	101 019	0	101 019	0
101 020	0	101 020	0	101 020	0
101 021	0	101 021	0	101 021	0
101 022	0	101 022	0	101 022	0
101 023	0	101 023	0	101 023	0
101 024	0	101 024	0	101 024	0
101 025	0	101 025	0	101 025	0
101 026	0	101 026	0	101 026	0
101 027	0	101 027	0	101 027	0
101 028	0	101 028	0	101 028	0
101 029	0	101 029	0	101 029	0
101 030	0	101 030	0	101 030	0
101 031	0	101 031	0	101 031	0
101 032	0	101 032	0	101 032	0
101 033	0	101 033	0	101 033	0
101 034	0	101 034	0	101 034	0
101 035	0	101 035	0	101 035	0
101 036	0	101 036	0	101 036	0
101 037	0	101 037	0	101 037	0
101 038	0	101 038	0	101 038	0
101 039	0	101 039	0	101 039	0
101 040	0	101 040	0	101 040	0
101 041	0	101 041	0	101 041	0
101 042	0	101 042	0	101 042	0
101 043	0	101 043	0	101 043	0
101 044	0	101 044	0	101 044	0
101 045	0	101 045	0	101 045	0
101 046	0	101 046	0	101 046	0
101 047	0	101 047	0	101 047	0
101 048	0	101 048	0	101 048	0
101 049	0	101 049	0	101 049	0
101 050	0	101 050	0	101 050	0
101 051	0	101 051	0	101 051	0
101 052	0	101 052	0	101 052	0
101 053	0	101 053	0	101 053	0
101 054	0	101 054	0	101 054	0
101 055	0	101 055	0	101 055	0
101 056	0	101 056	0	101 056	0
101 057	0	101 057	0	101 057	0
101 058	0	101 058	0	101 058	0
101 059	0	101 059	0	101 059	0
101 060	0	101 060	0	101 060	0
101 061	0	101 061	0	101 061	0
101 062	0	101 062	0	101 062	0
101 063	0	101 063	0	101 063	0
101 064	0	101 064	0	101 064	0
101 065	0	101 065	0	101 065	0
101 066	0	101 066	0	101 066	0
101 067	0	101 067	0	101 067	0
101 068	0	101 068	0	101 068	0
101 069	0	101 069	0	101 069	0
101 070	0	101 070	0	101 070	0
101 071	0	101 071	0	101 071	0
101 072	0	101 072	0	101 072	0
101 073	0	101 073	0	101 073	0
101 074	0	101 074	0	101 074	0
101 075	0	101 075	0	101 075	0
101 076	0	101 076	0	101 076	0
101 077	0	101 077	0	101 077	0
101 078	0	101 078	0	101 078	0
101 079	0	101 079	0	101 079	0
101 080	0	101 080	0	101 080	0
101 081	0	101 081	0	101 081	0
101 082	0	101 082	0	101 082	0
101 083	0	101 083	0	101 083	0
101 084	0	101 084	0	101 084	0
101 085	0	101 085	0	101 085	0
101 086	0	101 086	0	101 086	0
101 087	0	101 087	0	101 087	0
101 088	0	101 088	0	101 088	0
101 089	0	101 089	0	101 089	0
101 090	0	101 090	0	101 090	0
101 091	0	101 091	0	101 091	0
101 092	0	101 092	0	101 092	0
101 093	0	101 093	0	101 093	0
101 094	0	101 094	0	101 094	0
101 095	0	101 095	0	101 095	0
101 096	0	101 096	0	101 096	0
101 097	0	101 097	0	101 097	0
101 098	0	101 098	0	101 098	0
101 099	0	101 099	0	101 099	0
101 100	0	101 100	0	101 100	0

from the 1978 edition

FRS SALES PRODUCTIONS
the widest selection in
sw free radio tapes • radio
documentaries • offshores •
usa radio • video • jingles •
ONLY ONE CAN BE THE CHEAPEST!
SPECIAL DISCOUNTS!
order our sales list!
• 3 tins x 3x90pf / 3x75ct stamps
70p in cash or stamps \$1.00 •
pb-2727 - 6049 zg herten - holland



frs feature

RADIO MAURAKI

AUCKLAND'S BEST MUSIC

September 26th 1970 Radio Mauraki started a second, this time legal period in it's life. Nowadays commercial radio is in New Zealand a way of life, comparable with the situation in Great Britain. However, Radio Mauraki's offshore-period clearly differs from it's European counterparts. Firstly it would be impossible to keep an offshore station going like Mauraki did. Both radio-ships (called Tiri 1 and Tiri 2) sailed into harbours (while broadcasting) several times in case of emergency. Imagine: a stormy Northsea, Radio Veronica entering Scheveningen, in the meantime continuing broadcasting! Impossible!

The original set-up very much looked like the preparing of the Belmar-sea. Hardly seaworthy, bad equipment, low capital and so on. Mauraki's advantage possible was the intelligence of a certain Gapes. David Gapes described Mauraki's success on the high seas as follows: a matter of the right decision at the right moment from the right people with the right spirit. In the coming issues of "FRS GOES DX" we will look at the offshore-period of Radio Mauraki. At a later stage we will pay attention to the current situation of Radio Mauraki. Therefore, we have made contact with Mauraki's breakfast (and most popular) deejay Kevin Black, who was a Caroline-Jock in the Sixties.

In 1965 David Gapes challenged the New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation, which was serving the people of New Zealand with "1950-radio" at that time.

Gapes, from Wellington, was a journalist, specialised in investigating "strange stories". Therefore he travelled every now and then to Australia and England. In the latter country he discovered a type of radio sounding fresh and free in his ears. Gapes got aware of Radio Caroline and was impressed by the fact the foundations of this station were made of an anchor and anchorchain.

Not only the New Zealand radioisation was upsetting David Gapes, but also the fact that there was a lot of conservatism in his country. For instance bars had to be closed at 18.00 and cinemas and theatres should be closed on sundays.

Gapes got the idea to tackle the system, especially the very old-fashioned radio-structure.

Gapes was a total outsider regarding radio, but Bruce Baskett, an Australian radio-journalist was willing to invest his savings, some \$1,000 (!). Gapes decided to move towards the capital Auckland to involve more interested people into the project. First of these was John Tannahill, Gapes' lawyer. At first they were investigating the structure of the coming enterprise and looking for a suitable mooring for a ship. Such a place was quite hard to find, regarding the strange structure of New Zealand with a lot of islands. They found a mooring at Coleville Channel, 36°20' South and 175°15' East. The estimated capital they needed to invest into the station reached between 20 and 40 thousand dollars. Bruce got \$1,000 to put into the project. Gapes and his wife Wendy about \$2,000. So the whole idea looked an unrealistic dream. But Gapes couldn't manage to get it out of his mind.

frs feature

Offshore

THE HISTORY OF RADIO 270 by Hans Knott. - Part 4

PROBLEMS WITHIN THE ORGANISATION

In February 1970 Will Proudfoot had big problems with several shareholders, that didn't stay unnoticed. In early March some of the shareholders announced that they wished to change the office address and that they didn't want to use the services of Proudfoot any longer. A spokesman of the shareholders said amongst others: "There has been unrest in the organisation for quite a while and we disagree on a large range of subjects and decisions made by Proudfoot. We have lost confidence in him and are incapable of carrying out a resolution. Proudfoot is very turbulent. This is the second time they are trying to kick out of my seat. We'll just wait and see and also that time I'm sure to survive." Besides the reported problems with the regular transmission breakdowns of 270 a lot of advertisers were pulling back, which sent a substantial lower income for 270. Also a number of deejays had left Radio 270 in the mean time, especially because of the bad weather conditions. At the end of the special shareholders meeting Proudfoot turned out, as he had already predicted, to be the strongest man and he stayed in power. But to the shareholders the final word of confidence was a clear victory for Proudfoot and his fellow managers.

ELECTIONS

Radio Caroline and Radio 270 played themselves in at an early stage. One of the MP's even stated that the offshore stations were influencing the voters. Mr. Crossan, leader of the House of Representatives answered to this: "I don't know what they are up to, but if they are doing what I think they do, I hope that they tell all the listeners to vote correctly and for the candidates." The station then went back to the music more seriously. Mr. Appleby said that intervention of the offshore stations in the upcoming elections was being investigated and that, if necessary, appropriate measures would be taken. At the same time Proudfoot announced that paid political advertisements would be heard on his station in the near future. Candidates of the local political branches would have the chance to give their views in 20 words, 3 times per candidate. Ofcourse giving the Conservative this opportunity, the Labour Party was going sharply against the offshore radio scene. At last Proudfoot announced that on the first of May the first political broadcast would take place.

to be continued.

We would like to thank each and everyone who made it possible that 'FRS Goes DX' could be published in a regular way over 1989. Without your help we wouldn't have been able to carry out this heavy job. Thank you. Special thanks to all who was responsible for the scope of this special X-Mas edition of 'FRS Goes DX'.

Special
Marten for
tax work
the whole
envelopes
least
to our

thanks to
all the compu-
and painting
series of
Last but not
thanks
anyway!

SIGRT WAVE ADDRESSES number 1-6

- 1 = P.O.Box 41 - 7700 AA Dordrecht - The Netherlands
- 2 = P.O.Box 220 362 - D-5600 Wuppertal - West-Germany.
- 3 = P.O.Box 5 - Hunston - Norfolk PE26 5AD - UK.
- 4 = P.O.Box 19106 - 3501 DB Utrecht - The Netherlands

Winter 1965 the Gapes had to work very hard, accept additional work and live very sober to build up some reserve capital to enable the start of the project in 1966. Gapes was convinced the business would find the way to his station in large amounts, because there was a waiting-list of two years at NZBC. Furthermore advertising cigarettes was forbidden. Some people at Rothmans Tobacco assured Gapes they would advertise and that gave him some perspective.

Dennis O'Callahan was an expert in the field of broadcasting equipment and the building of it. Though he had left New Zealand for New Caledonia he got a letter from Gapes, writing to him: "Don't think we got mad, we are very serious." Dennis' answer started with "Wow" and ended with the promise to offer his services.

Summer Of 1966 was very pleasant. Gapes had rented a house with a view on Okahu Bay, stimulating him to daydream about a successful offshore radio-station. But the project didn't progress very well.

Nevertheless Gages visited advertising agencies where he was received very positively. In the person of Jim Walton he found the right man to calculate Hauraki's advertising-rates. However finding 10 advertisers, each willing to put \$4,000 into the project was a much bigger problem.

Private investors were afraid to invest money because of the risks. This meant they had to put the money from enterprises. However, a first attempt, at Rothmans, February 1966, failed. Yet Gages managed to find a name for his station according to the name of a bay near the chosen moorings: Hauraki Bay.

Bruce Baskett couldn't handle the sober life anymore and went back to Australia, while a certain Jim Frankham offered one of his ships to Gages. O'Callahan came back to New Zealand for the technical side of the ship. The ship was built. The decision was made to use a frequency of 1480 KHz. In the meantime, O'Callahan made a design for the furnishing of the ship.

In 1965 two employees of NZBC became aware of the fact English offshore stations were successful and they got the idea to start their own radio-ship off the New Zealand coast. At that time Derek Lowe and Chris Parkinson hadn't heard of a certain Gapes yet. So they were very shocked when they read in the papers about Gapes' plans in March 1966. They decided to visit David and Wendy Gapes. After a night-long talk about the Muraiki project they decided to join Gapes. In the coming period Gapes and Lowe would concentrate on Muraiki, while Parkinson and Callaghan would be working "normal" to earn income for the four of them.

In the meantime Mawraiki had become subject of talk at NZEC. However, there was no comment given to the press, except the suggestion the Minister of Post (Jack Scott), who was also responsible for marine affairs, should hold a careful eye on the project and undertake a close investigation. Scott replied he didn't know if his influence would reach that long. So there was no direct government action to come.



The Story So Far

Conceived: May 1987

Born: 8.00 a.m. Friday 1st September 1989.

Place of Birth: A large Victorian house in the town of Trim, Co. Meath, Ireland. Trim is an ancient market town of c.5,000 people and is situated at a ford on the River Boyne.

Callsign/Name: ATLANTIC 252.

Parents Name: Radio Luxembourg and Radio Televis Gireann.

Broadcast Frequency: 252 KHZ on the Long Wave Band.

First Words Spoken: "Mine is the first voice you will ever hear on Atlantic 252" - Gary King.

First Record Played: "Sowing the Seeds of Love" - Tears for Fears

Studios: Mornington House, Summerhill Road, Trim, Co. Meath, Ireland.
 Telephone (010-353-46) 36155.

Approximately 25 miles North West of Dublin. One main on-air studio, one pre-production plus one standby studio. All our Presenters broadcast standing up!

Transmitter Site: Clarksdown, Summerhill, Co. Meath. Approximately 6 miles from the studio

Transmitter Power Output: 500,000 Watts

Transmitter: 2 x 300 kw Continental - manufactured by Varian Associates in Dallas, Texas. Installed by Engineers from R T E

Transmitter Tower: 3 sided 248 metres high.

Tuning Guide: Tell your friends how to find Atlantic 252. Switch your radio to long wave and tune till you hear the his. To improve reception try turning your "Tunny" to the left or right

Personnel:

Travis Baxter - Station Manager
 - The man at the helm of the ship!

Paul Kavanagh - Head of Music
 - Previously with Sunshine Radio in Dublin

John Cassin - Consultant
 - The power behind Lazer 558

Dave Atkey
 - Promotions Co-Ordinator
 - Previously Executive Producer with BBC Radio 1

Presenters:

Gary King - U.K.
 Henry Owens - Irish
 Tony West - U.K.
 Dusty Rhodes - Irish

Charlie Wolf - U.S.A.
 Al Dunne - Irish
 Jeff Graham - U.K.
 Paul Kavanagh - Irish

News-Team:

Andrew Turner - U.K.

Maryellen O'Brien - U.S.A.

Music Format:

Contemporary hits with a strong percentage of music from the last 4 years. Other material includes a selection of the greatest hits of the 60's with some special tracks included from the 60's and 70's.

General Mail Address:

Atlantic 252
 PO Box 252
 London W1E 2RA

Advertising Airtime:

Mr Brian Mellor, Sales & Marketing Director,
 R.T.L. Media Sales,
 Telephone Number - London 493 5961

On Air Schedule

Monday - Friday:

06.00 - 09.00	Gary King	Atlantic 252 Sixty Seconds News
09.00 - 12.00	Henry Owens	Headlines with Andrew Turner and
12.00 - 14.00	Tony West	Maryellen O'Brien throughout the
14.00 - 16.00	Dusty Rhodes	morning Monday - Saturday
16.00 - 19.00	Charlie Wolf	

Saturday:

06.00 - 10.00	Al Dunne
10.00 - 13.00	Charlie Wolf
13.00 - 16.00	Dusty Rhodes
16.00 - 19.00	Jeff Graham

Sunday:

06.00 - 10.00	Jeff Graham
10.00 - 14.00	Al Dunne
14.00 - 16.00	Maryellen O'Brien
16.00 - 19.00	Paul Kavanagh

14.00 - 19.00 Classic Rock Sunday.

18.8.89 Press officer of Dutch Justice, Mijssen: "We have no intention at all to board the radiovessel at sea, we learnt a lot with the Paradis case."

18.8.89 DTI Press officer: "We have no intention at all boarding the Caroline vessel, unless permission is granted to us."

19.8.89 Chicago, after one of the Dutch boarders, a police-officer, went to draw a pistol from it's holster: "Am I going to be shot?" (A hit in Chicago's face followed causing injury).

19.8.89 One of the crewmembers tried to intercept and another police-officer warned him: "I'll knock your fucking head off!"

19.8.89 Chr. Kennedy: Radio Caroline: "Radio Caroline, we love you too much to leave you forever."

19.8.89 Nigel Harris: "A good question: Do you know what it's like to be free? Over the years, since Easter 1964 we have known what it's like to be free. The only trouble about freedom is that it scares a lot of people, particularly the people who've been solved or not free and when they see Freedom the only way they think of to do it is to stamp this out. Radio Caroline refuses to be stamped out!"

19.8.89 Roan O'Rahilly after DTI proclaimed they had only be on the Landward to observe the boarding party by Dutch authorities: "It's just like the case of Nuremberg."

19.8.89 Dijkstra, Head 'Opsporings Dienst Clandestiene Zenders' (GPO department for raids on illegal stations) in the NOS programme "Oog op Morgen": "We have complaints from several countries, including Sweden and Hungary, that the station was interfering on maritime frequencies."

19.8.89 Hans Knot in the same programme: "Nonsense, we've heard this since the start of Radio Veronica in 1960. Caroline doesn't interfere and Hungary has no navy."

19.8.89 Dijkstra: "Right, indeed there're too less ships in Hungary."

19.8.89 Dijkstra: "We're making a flat, for it's time to say goodbye to the offshore pirate stations."

19.8.89 Hans Knot: "Tomorrow the Canadian owners will go to their lawyers and take the Dutch government to court."

19.8.89 Custom Officers in Ramsgate inspected the Landward to investigate whether equipment, removed from the Ross Revenge, was aboard. Peter Moore from the Caroline organisation: "We wanted to know whether the Dutch or British sailed away with our equipment. We now know for sure: the Dutch did it."

19.8.89 Chicago: "The Dutch had an official order to impound, but it was just official vandalism."

19.8.89 Chicago: "We're going to start again. We're not going to give up. In fact it's made us even more determined to get back on-air. The only way we can triumph is to go back on! If they do come back we won't start any violence, we will resist and will even leave ourselves open to injury to doing so."

19.8.89 Hans Knot: "I'm totally shocked and horrified. Dutch authorities have made the Netherlands a police-state. The boarding of the Caroline vessel is an act of piracy! DTI officials said they were only there on a vessel, the MV Landward, to observe the case. The question is what a guy, who presented himself as Jim Murphy, did on the Ross Revenge. I'm certain he was out there to play records like Big Jim Murphy did in the Sixties on Caroline."

19.8.89 Dijkstra (OCZ): "The raid was not against Caroline and WMR. We took their transmitters and equipment because these transmitters were also used by Radio 819."

21.8.89 Hans Knot: "I'm believing, for 100%, that Radio Caroline will return. Caroline is a part of Western Europe's Radio History. Without Caroline the radio scene isn't real! Give them a break for about 6 months, but I know for sure they will be back before their 26th birthday and I hope also they'll ever go to sea again with a Dutch organisation!"

20.8.89 Howard G. Rose: "What happened this weekend was far from dignified. If there is ever to be an end for Radio Caroline I think we would all like it to be dignified."

FRS SALES PRODUCTIONS

*the widest selection in
*sw free radio tapes*radio
documentaries*offshore*
usa radio*video*jingles*

ONLY ONE CAN BE THE CHEAPEST!

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS!

«order our sales-list»

*3 inc's *3x80pf / 3x75 ct stamps
70p in cash or stamps *\$1.00*
pb-2727-6049 zg herten-holland